

Hong Kong Daily Press.

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號一十二月正英港

PRICE \$2½ PER MONTH

r. 15, 25th Dec.—Mrs. Page and child.
 Per Messageries Maritimes steamer
 Nov. from Marseilles, 11th Jan.—Mr. V. D.
 Per P. & O. steamer *Arcadia*, from
 —Mr. A. B. Whyte, Mr. A. P. Stokes
 Jan. 5, G. Stokes, Mr. P. Jordan.
 from Per P. & O. steamer *Rhedos*, from
 22nd Jan.—Mrs. Jane Aokers, Miss

INTIMATIONS.

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.

FANCY COSTUMES

HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 16th January, 1891.

WINES AND SPIRITS

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

(ESTABLISHED 1844.)

We invite attention to the following old and new brands, all of which are excellent quality and good value for the money.

The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best goods at moderate prices.

In ordering it is only necessary to state the name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

Orders through Local Post or by Telegram receive prompt attention.

FOOTNOTES: (For Invalids and general use.)

	Per Bottle	Per Doz.
A. Alto Duro, good quality.	210	\$1.00
B. Vintage, superior quality.	12	1.10
C. Fine Old Vintage, superior quality.	14	1.25
D. Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
E. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
F. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
G. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
H. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
I. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
J. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
K. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
L. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
M. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
N. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
O. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
P. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
Q. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
R. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
S. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
T. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
U. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
V. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
W. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
X. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
Y. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50
Z. Superior Old Vintage, extra superior.	18	1.50

CLARETS.

A. Superior Breakfast Claret.	84	\$4.50
B. St. Stephen's Red Claret.	40	5.00
C. St. John's Red Claret.	7	5.50
D. St. Rose Red Claret.	11	12.00

BRANDY.

A. Superior Old Brandy.	12	\$1.10
B. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.25
C. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
D. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
E. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
F. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
G. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
H. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
I. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
J. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
K. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
L. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
M. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
N. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
O. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
P. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
Q. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
R. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
S. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
T. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
U. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
V. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
W. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
X. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
Y. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50
Z. Superior Old Brandy.	12	1.50

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
B. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
C. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
D. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
E. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
F. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
G. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
H. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
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J. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
K. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
L. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
M. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
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U. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
V. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
W. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
X. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
Y. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75
Z. Superior Old Scotch Whisky.	8	0.75

WHISKY.

A. Superior Old Whisky.	8	0.75
B. Superior Old Whisky.	8	0.75
C. Superior Old Whisky.	8	0.75
D. Superior Old Whisky.	8	0.75
E. Superior Old Whisky.	8	0.75
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W. Superior Old Whisky.	8	0.75
X. Superior Old Whisky.	8	0.75
Y. Superior Old Whisky.	8	0.75
Z. Superior Old Whisky.	8	0.75

GIN.

A. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40
B. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40
C. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40
D. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40
E. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40
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G. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40
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V. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40
W. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40
X. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40
Y. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40
Z. Superior Old Gin.	4.50	0.40

LIQUEURS.

A. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
B. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
C. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
D. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
E. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
F. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
G. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
H. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
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K. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
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T. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
U. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
V. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
W. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
X. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
Y. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10
Z. Superior Old Liqueur.	12	1.10

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Only communications relating to the press columns should be addressed to the Editor, and not to the proprietors. Correspondents are requested to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

Orders for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 10 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited.

Telegraphic Address Press. Telephone No. 12.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JANUARY 21st, 1891.

To-day we commence the celebration of the completion of the fifty years during which Hongkong has been a British possession, and the occasion is not inappropriate for making some collection of the position which we occupy after this period of British administration. Politically speaking, the fifty years that have elapsed are one continuous justification of the policy which inspired the acquisition and determined the groundwork of its hold. After some years of doubt and uncertainty, in which the most gloomy views as to its future were entertained, Hongkong before long blossomed out into the full-blown importance of the commercial pre-eminence which she still maintains and which, so long as conditions exist as they are, she is likely to maintain and increase. There is something peculiarly romantic and interesting both in the history and surroundings of this curious island, and its condition now, after fifty years of British rule, is a curious commentary on the relative characteristics of Western and Oriental enterprise. Hongkong is a manner the ambassador for Western commerce in the East, and under the shelter of a strong and enlightened flag it has become the starting point and the home of the business enterprise that the energy of

European men and the commercial aptitude of the Chinese are continually inaugurating. In scarcely any other part of the world would there be any reason for its existence, but in the presence of an exclusive empire conscious of the advantages of commerce, and jealous of the slightest encroachment upon its exclusive existence, it is a matter of the first necessity. The attitude of the Chinese Government towards Europeans has been one of centuries of isolation from types of civilization superior to its own, and every step towards bringing into line the ordinary intercourse of people between people has been harassed and thwarted by the exalted attitude which the Chinese Government assumes. It is barely over fifty years since the claim of the representative of Great Britain to correspond direct on equal terms with the Viceroy of the Two Kwang, and not by way of petition through the Hong Merchants, created a tension which found relief only in a perpetual arms race. It is the direct result of the acquisition of this island that the abandonment of a position which the logic of facts and the flux of time has proved to be untenable is being gradually, but slowly effected without outrage to the Empire, Hongkong, not as a lightning conductor to dissipate and neutralize the impact of highly electrical tendencies of opposite character. It has the British Empire behind it, and the consciousness of this security gives free play to the harmonizing effects of unrestricted commercial intercourse, and adds weight to the position of the Minister at Peking. The great Bank that oils the wheels of commerce and of enterprise in our midst is possible only through the security afforded by the prestige attaching to a British possession, and it may be confidently foretold that so long as China remains unopened and inaccessible the political importance of Hongkong must continue to be paramount.

Apart, however, from its political importance and commercial value, Hongkong is also interesting as a test of the adaptability of British institutions to a very abnormal state of things. The British flag shelters under it in this Colony a population drawn almost exclusively from the confines of the enormous empire of China and within constant and daily communication with one of its most important cities. Apart from the peculiar character of the Chinese and their audacity to anything but originating in their own soil, the difficulty of ruling them is greatly augmented by the fact of the immediate proximity of Hongkong to the mainland, whereby a state of things is created against which the best intentioned Government is powerless to provide. When an expenditure of a few cents is sufficient at any hour of any day to enable a native of China to transfer his allegiance from one flag to the other, and when even the oldest residents here have their families and relations over the border, it is not possible to judge the effects of British rule by the standard which would be applicable to the same kind of population removed from the neighbourhood of China. A Chinaman himself is scarcely conscious that he is not on his own soil, and his date European as "devils" and "barbarians" in the streets of Hongkong with the same fervour of conviction with which the people of Canton so dub them in their own streets, and it never occurs to him that on British soil the real foreigners are those who are not British subjects. The proper test of British rule in a place like Hongkong is the extent to which it represents in a constitutional manner the best wants of its population while keeping its own pre-eminence intact and prominent. Questions of finance, treatment of crime, prosecution of public works, and general administration are all included in this generalisation, and a system of Government must be completely satisfied its requirements that is which is best adapted to the Colony. By the Governor has this been more fully recognised than by the late Sir Richard MacDonnell. Every law passed in his time and every act done leaves the impression of intelligent and systematic forethought, and every departure from this original scheme has impaired the efficiency of the Government. It is one of the drawbacks to what otherwise is an excellent arrangement that the limitation of the term of Governors prevents the proper consolidation of a scheme of Government. Requiring time for its development, and with the advent of new rulers details fall into abeyance, essential points are disregarded, and a new order of things arises requiring fresh elaboration and correction.

At the present moment we are bound to say that there is certainly room for improvement. In the course of fifty years of occupation a large population has sprung up with which the existing machinery of Government is inadequate to keep track. Our public works administration has grown too large for effective supervision, and standards have become encumbered with too many laws, our criminal classes have been increased by a too liberal enactment of penal legislation, and our revenue is hampered with the uncertainty and anomalies attendant upon the Opium Farm monopoly. What is required is a scheme of Government in which will be represented the requirements of the numerous conditions inseparable from an alien population brought up under different modes of treatment and habits of thought. In default of it there is always a danger, and especially with a population so capable of organisation as the Chinese, of the growth of imperious imperio and a weakening of the central executive, which ought to be always rigidly maintained. The Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Judges, the Magistrates, and Departments represent the constitutional machinery by which British rule should be worked, and so devoid of the policy of teaching the Chinese to regard any one department as specially concerned with their affairs deflects their attention from the proper gradations through which the theory of the constitution works, and is calculated to impair the efficiency of the executive and to encourage the growth of exotic institutions. We do not think that the Government could do better at the present time than to appoint a Commission to consider the best means of keeping in check and drawing into its channels the whole of the Chinese population, and with a view to

enhance the control of the central executive and lessen the friction that is constantly being innocently caused by inadequate knowledge of the Chinese and their ways. Few Governments are better intentioned than the British Government in their dealings with natives, and few Governments possess in a greater degree the genius of organisation in a liberal and conciliatory way. We are convinced therefore that the task of bringing into harmony with a proper subject to British rule, the varied and conflicting elements that abound in this Colony is not beyond the scope of the Government. We think further that it is a most necessary duty and that there is a real danger of the Chinese population in the course of time ceasing to be in touch with the executive, possibly to the endangerment of the peace of the Colony. Fortunately no such prospect is imminent or even remotely likely, nor would there be occasion for anything now, except that in reviewing the outcome of a period of novel experience one has to mark the tendencies and the direction in which they are sitting. With proper provision for the future we think the Colony can be warmly congratulated on the past. Our relations with the mainland are excellent, our rule is not unacceptable to the Chinese, our social relations with them are constantly improving, and our free and liberal institutions find expression in every kind of individuality. It is heartily congratulating the Colony on its Jubilee we desire also to congratulate His Excellency Sir William Carrington on his Governorship on the occasion, and to express our hope that both for the Colony and for His Excellency there are many days of prosperity in store.

HONGKONG, 1841-1891.

On the 26th day of January, 1841, the British flag was hoisted on the island of Hongkong, and the British Government assumed the administration of the Colony. The first Governor, Sir John Davis, arrived on the 26th day of January, 1841, and the first Magistrate, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 27th day of January, 1841. The first British subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 28th day of January, 1841, and the first Chinese subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 29th day of January, 1841. The first British subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 30th day of January, 1841, and the first Chinese subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 31st day of January, 1841. The first British subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 1st day of February, 1841, and the first Chinese subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 2nd day of February, 1841. The first British subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 3rd day of February, 1841, and the first Chinese subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 4th day of February, 1841. The first British subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 5th day of February, 1841, and the first Chinese subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 6th day of February, 1841. The first British subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 7th day of February, 1841, and the first Chinese subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 8th day of February, 1841. The first British subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 9th day of February, 1841, and the first Chinese subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 10th day of February, 1841. The first British subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 11th day of February, 1841, and the first Chinese subject, Mr. John Macdonnell, arrived on the 12th day of February, 1841. 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